Durham County Animal Control Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes September 23, 2008

In Attendance: Amanda Arrington, Martha Ann Traylor, Marie Inserra, Cindy Bailey, Evelyn Nicholson, Joyce Arcus, Joyce McKinney, Susan Teer, Vickie White, Becky Herron, Shafonda Price, Beth Livingston. One visitor from the community in attendance.

Amanda Arrington presiding.

Minutes from the May 27, meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

Animal Control Update: May-August impound statistics were reviewed.

Shelter Update: July and August reports were reviewed. Numbers for July were consistent with previous years, whereas August showed a significant increase in number of animals surrendered and euthanasia. Adoptions were also decreased in August. Financial constraints have been cited by many owners as reason for surrender. Shafonda Price has been appointed as the Manager of the Durham APS. Almost all positions in the shelter have been filled; however, the position of Kennel Assistant Manager is currently unfilled.

Old Business: The language for the tethering ban ordinance was disseminated to all members by email prior to the meeting. Cindy Bailey provided an update on progress of the new Animal Control building. Tentative move-in date is January 2009.

New Business: The education roll-out plan for the anti-tethering ordinance was discussed. The committee was informed that animal tax (no longer a licensing fee) will be sent out with personal property tax bills, which means that the tax will be handled by the Durham tax office. Overdue licensing fees extending back to 2006 will still be collected by APS. The inherently dangerous animal ordinance was discussed in regards to its application to exotic animals. The committee briefly discussed the potential problems associated with allowing chickens to reside within city limits. A request was made to add discussion for mandatory spay/neuter to a future agenda.

Next Meeting: November 18, 2008